

--72. A process for producing a bone graft suitable for transplantation into a human, comprising:

subjecting said bone graft including an internal matrix, and said internal matrix of said bone graft to negative pressure under conditions effective to remove said bone marrow from said bone graft and said internal matrix.--

REMARKS

Claims 59-72 are pending in this application. Claims 71 and 72 have been added to more clearly define the present invention. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above and the Amendment and Response filed on October 21, 1996, it is submitted that claims 59-72 are in condition for immediate allowance and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the Stafford, Virginia telephone number on any questions that may arise.

Respectfully submitted,

KLIMA & HOPKINS, P.C.



Susanne M. Hopkins-Klima
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 33,247

Date: May 5, 1997

Crystal Plaza One - Suite 905
2001 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202-3603
(703) 418-0716
SHK/kam
preamdts.shk